Grade Level/Course Title: 6-8 / AD4-Gr6-8-Unit 1 Course Code: Academic Development

# **Academic Development**

The units in Academic Development are designed to assist students K-12 in developing the academic skills necessary to be successful in the classroom and in life. The three major areas covered in Academic Development are:

#### Applying skills needed for educational achievement.

**Major Points:** The emphasis in this area is developing "academic self-efficacy". This includes instilling the belief that every individual can set and attain academic goals. Self-management, study and test taking skills are systematically and intentionally taught to every K-12 student. Sources of help are available for students; they are taught to recognize the need for academic assistance and where and how to get help.

## Applying the skills of transitioning between educational levels.

**Major Points:** The learning within this area includes helping K-12 students acquire the information necessary to make smooth transitions from grade to grade and setting to setting (e.g. elementary school to middle school; school to post-secondary options). Understanding expectations of teachers and requirements of subject areas are examples of information that will help students understand the changes required by transitions.

## Developing and monitoring personal educational plans.

**Major Points:** The Missouri School Improvement Program requires all students to have individual educational and career plans that are initiated no later than 8<sup>th</sup> grade. This area places emphasis on the knowledge, understanding and skills K-12 students need in order to develop a meaningful educational plan. Specific tasks include: learning to set goals; developing a plan to reach goals; knowing where to go for information/assistance; reviewing and modifying plans.

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#### **UNIT DESCRIPTION:** The Successful Student

Students will participate in group discussions involving self-management skills, study skills, learning styles, goal-setting, and test-taking strategies.

- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade lessons include strategies that help students explore the characteristics and skills of successful learners and strategies designed to help students identify their learning styles.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade lesson is designed to help students become familiar with the purposes Self-Management Skills, Study Skills and Test-taking Skills.
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: As a summative activity, students will evaluate their current management, study, and test-taking skills using the survey and performance activity, *Getting Your Grades Together*.

NOTE: The counselor/instructor has some latitude with this unit. Some may wish to use *Getting Your Grades Together* for pre- and post-assessment. Others may wish to introduce this activity at the beginning of 6<sup>th</sup> grade and again at the conclusion of 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Still others may use this survey throughout the middle school process. The short-answer and essay questions are designed for the post-test phase at the end of 8<sup>th</sup> grade, but may be omitted when using the survey for earlier grades.

The counselor/instructor may want to use the survey information to work with at-risk students to discuss student perceptions versus student performance.

**SUGGESTED UNIT TIMELINE:** 4 Lessons

CLASS PERIOD (min.): 45 minutes each

### **ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:**

- 1. What does a successful student look like?
- 2. What choices do you make that impact your success as a student?
- 3. Why don't we all learn the same way on the same day?

ESSENTIAL MEASURABLE LEARNING OBJECTIVES	CCSS LEARNING GOALS (Anchor	CROSSWALK TO STANDARDS				
	Standards/Clusters)		PS	ccss	OTHER ASCA	DOK
1. The student will describe five qualities and/or characteristics of a successful student.		AD.4.A.06: Develop and practice		RI.6.1 RI.6.4	AD A Students will	DOK – 3

	study skills and test-	W.6.1	acquire the	
	taking strategies	W.6.2	attitudes,	
	specific to each	SL.6.1	knowledge	
	academic area and	L.6.1	and skills	
	identify available	L.6.2 L.6.3	contributing to effective	
	resources.	L.6.3 L.6.4	learning in	DOK – 4
		L.6.5	school and	
	AD.4.B.06:	L.6.6	across the	
	Develop and practice a		lifespan.	
	self-management			
	system to promote			DOK – 3
	academic success.			
	***************************************			
	AD.4.A.07:			
	Demonstrate and refine			
	study skills and test-			
	taking strategies			
	utilizing available			DOK – 3
	academic resources.			DON 3
	deddeniie resources.			
	AD.4.B.07:			
	Demonstrate and refine			
	a self –management			
	system to promote			DOK - 4
	academic success.			DOIL 1
	deddeline success.			
	AD.4.A.08:			
	Consistently apply a			
	system of study skills			
	and test-taking			
	strategies to promote			DOK – 4
	academic success.			
	AD.4.B.08:			
	Consistently apply a			
	self-management			
	system to promote			
	academic success.			
2. The student will write a paragraph describing	AD.4.A.06.	RI.6.1, 4	AD A	DOK – 3
	AD.4.B.06	W.6.1, 2		DOK – 4
his/her individual learning style and cite three	AD.4.A.07.	SL.6.1		DOK – 3
ways his/her academic achievement can improve	AD.4.B.07	L.6.1-6		DOK – 3
using learning style strategies.	AD.4.A.08			DOK – 4
	AD.4.B.08			DOK - 4
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3. The student will identify two or more skills in the categories of study skills, test-taking skills,	AD.4.A.06 AD.4.B.06 AD.4.A.07	RI.7.1 RI.7.4 SL.7.1	AD A	DOK – 3 DOK – 4 DOK – 3
and self-management skills.	AD.4.B.07 AD.4.A.08 AD.4.B.08	L.7.1 L.7.2 L.7.3 L.7.4 L.7.5 L.7.6		DOK – 3 DOK – 4 DOK – 4
4. The student will develop two academic success goals and three action steps that can be utilized to accomplish each goal.	AD.4.A.06 AD.4.B.06 AD.4.A.07 AD.4.B.07 AD.4.A.08 AD.4.B.08	RI.8.4 W.8.1 W.8.10 SL.8.1 L.8.1 L.8.2 L.8.3 L.8.4 L.8.5 L.8.6	AD A	DOK - 3 DOK - 4 DOK - 3 DOK - 3 DOK - 4 DOK - 4

#### **ASSESSMENT DESCRIPTIONS\*:**

Getting Your Grades Together survey and performance activity. Summative Assessment will take place during the 8<sup>th</sup> grade lesson. Learners will assess their own study skills via the Getting Your Grades Together survey. After assessing their skills, students will write an essay describing their plans for applying what they have learned in middle school to high school work. Essays will include the following elements: Discussion of strengths and limitations in the areas of: Self-Management Skills; Study Skills, and Test-taking skills and the steps to personal success in each skill area. This will be a formal essay and follow the conventions of standard English. To add interest, essay may be written as a letter to self.

Obj.#	INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES (research-based): (Teacher Methods)					
	x Direct					
	x Indirect					
	x Experiential					
	x Independent study					
	x Interactive Instruction					
	See Lessons:					
1	Grade 6:					
2	Lesson 1 Picturing the Successful Student					
3	Lesson 2 What's Your Style?					
4	Grade 7:					
	Lesson 3 Let's Review for Better Achievement					

	Grade 8:	o alrin a							
	Lesson 4 Just Ch								
Obj.#	INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVIT	TIES: (What Students Do)							
1 2 3 4	Lesson 2 What's Grade 7:	Review for Better Achieven	nent						
	Direct:  _x Structured Overview (Ls. 4)  Lecture _x Explicit Teaching (Ls. 4)  Drill & Practice _x Compare & Contrast (Ls.2-4) Didactic Questions Demonstrations _x Guided & Shared - reading, listening, viewing, thinking (Ls. 1-2-3-4)	Indirect: x Problem Solving (Ls. 3) x Case Studies (Ls. 3)  Reading for Meaning  Inquiry x Reflective Discussion (Ls.1-2-3-4)  Writing to Inform  Concept Formation x Concept Mapping(Ls. 3)  Concept Attainment  Cloze Procedure	Experiential:     Field Trips     Narratives     Conducting Experiments     Simulations     Games     Storytelling     Focused Imaging     Field Observations     Role-playing     Model Building     X Surveys (Ls.2-4)	Independent Studyx_ Essays (Ls. 2) Computer Assisted Instruction Journals Learning Logs Reports Learning Activity Packages Correspondence Lessonsx_ Learning Contracts (Ls. 4) Homework Research Projects Assigned Questions Learning Centers	Interactive Instruction  Debates Role Playing Panels X Brainstorming (Ls. 1-3-4) Peer Partner Learning X Discussion (Ls. 1) Laboratory Groups X Think, Pair, Share (Ls. 1-4) X Cooperative Learning (Ls. 1) Jigsaw X Problem Solving (Ls. 3) Structured Controversy Tutorial Groups Interviewing Conferencing				
<b>UNIT RE</b>	UNIT RESOURCES:								
Commo	n Core State Standards (C	CSS), accessed May 17, 201	13, from http://www.coresta	ndards.org/					

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